

**Consumer Task Force  
Capitol View Building  
February 26, 2008 10:00 am - noon  
MINUTES**

**ATTENDEES:** RoAnne Chaney, Jacqui Day, Ian Engle, Laura Hall, , Sara Harrison, Sharon Hold, Betty Kirk, Suanne McBrien, Cathy McRae, Marion Owen, Maureen Sheahan, Susan Steinke, Veretta Triplett, Cyndy Viars, Colleen Widder, Tammy Yeomans, Theresa Arini, Nora Barkey, Tandy Bidinger, Robert Curtner, John M. Jokisch, Joe Longcor, Wendi Middleton, Tari Muñiz, Jackie Tichnell

**INTRODUCTIONS** - The Task Force welcomed a new attendee: Leah March.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES** - Minutes were approved.

**OFFICE UPDATE** - The Office update from the Commission meeting was distributed. The Office has approval to fill ten new positions. There is an Open House for the new office, Friday, February 29, at 201 Townsend, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Lansing, from 3pm - 5pm.

**STATUS OF BUDGET** - The handouts of the powerpoint presentation that Mike Head provided to the Senate Budget Subcommittee was distributed. Several issues were discussed:

- The Affordable Assisted Living and Specialized Residential Services projects may be under their own new waivers, not a MI Choice amendment. That decision has not been made at this time. New waivers would mean new boundaries. Tim McIntyre and Marion Owen may be able to provide more information on Affordable Assisted Living.
- Steinke noted that, based on her calculations, the Affordable Assisted Living project would receive about \$71 as a daily rate, Specialized Residential Services would receive about \$89 as a daily rate, and the MI Choice waiver would receive about \$56 as a daily rate.
- The difference between supported housing and specialized residential services is that supported housing includes a subsidy for housing. Either option includes a consumer's choice of providers.

- The Specialized Residential Services proposal is not the same as what the workgroup is recommending.
- The nursing facility lobby is very strong and active on this subject. Their stand is to take care from patients to offset the budget cuts, not choice for the consumer.
- There was much discussion regarding the nursing facility presentation at the Long-Term Care Commission meeting on Monday.
- Chaney, Bidinger, and Slocum will provide talking points for the group to use when talking about the budget. Tichnell will distribute those to the Task Force.
- The full array of services needs to be stressed; not one service over the other. The full array needs to be adequately funded.
- There is a Senate Subcommittee hearing this Thursday. Tichnell will get the schedule and distribute it. Senator Kahn is the head of the Senate Subcommittee. [shooks@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:shooks@senate.michigan.gov) . Be sure to provide a hard copy of your testimony to the Subcommittee.

**PROJECT UPDATES** - In addition to the Update handout -

- **Self-Determination in Long-Term Care** - There are approximately 165 persons enrolled in self-determination. Some of the enrollees are from the nonpilot waiver agents. Training is wrapping up in Gaylord. The Robert Wood Johnson funding ends in March; the Systems Transformation Grant will then continue this initiative.

**Project Success** - The first training is this week in Region 1B. The challenge has been in getting consumers to participate. There are approximately 18-20 people in the first training. Engle is helping with this initiative.

- **Medicaid Infrastructure Grant** - Longcor has been working with five CMHs as supported employment with good response. The Michigan Rehabilitation Services is trying to coordinate their efforts with Evidence-Based Practices. There was discussion about the jobs people are getting and if they are happy with them.

**Project Search** - Hope Network is working with Fifth/Third Bank on this project. They are looking to implement in spring of this

year. Detroit-Wayne Intermediate School District, Berrien CIL, and Oakland CMH are also showing interest in this project.

Vocational Rehabilitation and the Department of Education are trying to coordinate their efforts of transitioning students into the workforce.

Db101 for Michigan is moving forward.

- **Quality Community Care Council** - Kent County is doing a lot of good training of providers. There have been some referrals from the Long-Term Care Connections and the Disability Network.
- **Money Follows the Person** - This grant ends March of this year. The final report is being drafted. Efforts will continue under the Systems Transformation Grant. The Office is working on developing stakeholder groups; one for the Detroit area that the Detroit Area Agency on Aging is working on and one at the State level. Let Curtner know if you are interested in this group. The feasibility study will not start until the contractor formally requests the data.

There is a Self-Determination Leadership Conference March 11 in Lansing. This will have a mental health focus. There is an International Self-Determination Conference in Detroit, May 27-29, at the Renaissance Center. Display and exhibitors are needed. Consumer Task Force members may be sponsored if they have no other payment source. You should register for this conference through the Michigan Community Mental Health Board Association and let them know you are a Consumer Task Force member.

- **Long-Term Care Connections** - The Office will be adding self-determination as an option through the Options Counselors. Staff is working with the Medical Services Administration on revising the level-of-care determination policy to include an electronic connection of the Connections to the level-of-care determination system and adding PACE to their responsibilities.

- **OSA - Nursing Home Diversion Grant** - Middleton provided a handout on this grant. Questions should be directed to her. ([middletonw@michigan.gov](mailto:middletonw@michigan.gov), 517-373-4071).

## **OTHER**

- Stipends - there was a discussion regarding the continued funding of the \$50 stipend for consumers to attend these meetings as the consumer base in the group is growing large. It was noted that there are several grants available to tap for this purpose. Staff will pursue with the Office. Mileage will continue to be reimbursed also. Middleton also suggested using her staff person to research other grant possibilities, and Longcor noted that the MIG might be able to support consumers as well. These options will be discussed before the next meeting. Any member thinking of inviting a new consumer should let the Executive Committee know first.
- Widder had her administrative hearing. She has been approved for 24-hour care but continue to share staff. It appeared to go well. No decision will be made until after February 29.

## **REMINDERS:**

- When attending by phone, please put your phone on mute. The background noise from the phone is distracting.

## **NEXT MEETINGS:**

APRIL 22, 2008; 10:00 - noon, Michigan Association of Community Mental Health Boards

MAY 27, 2008; 10:00 - noon, Michigan Association of Community Mental Health Boards

## **PHONE IN NUMBER:**

800-791-2345, Passcode 74236